



the VOICE

June 2024

Growing Together in Christ to Love and Serve All People

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Temporary Closure of Property begins June 1

Our property and liability insurance expires May 31, 2024, and our policy was not renewed by our current insurance company. Due to the high level of risk associated with operating without insurance, the Congregation Council voted to **close our property** to all staff, members, visitors, and building users as of **June 1, 2024** until insurance is back in effect. There is NO worship service at Saint Andrew's on June 2.
Read more on page 2.

God Hears Us

*What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer!* ELW Hymn 742

I've shared this with you before, but one of the deep-seated memories of my childhood is my dad praying every morning. As his day began, he sat in his chair at the table with his coffee, Bible, and the current *Christ in Our Home* devotional booklet. He spent 10-15 minutes silently reading, reflecting on the day's lesson, and praying. It was an unwritten rule that we not disturb him during that time because it was his time with God. I eventually learned that that time set the tone for his day, and even in retirement it is still his daily practice.

In the article that I put together for Health and Wholeness (see page 6), I note that our spiritual health and wholeness is equally as important as our physical health and that for us, as Christians, prayer is a significant part of our spiritual health. Whether our days are unimaginably busy or mind-numbingly mundane, or when the news cycle gets the best of us, prayer helps keep us grounded and tethered to God.

When I talk with people about prayer, we often end up talking about which words we should use or whether there's a "proper" way or time to pray. The short answer is there are no specific words to use, and there's no right or wrong way or time to pray.

The longer answer is that there are as many different ways to pray as there are people in the world. Some people pray by speaking or whispering words with their heads bowed and hands folded. Some pray when they create art. Some pray when they sing or play a musical instrument. Some people pray during their commute. Others pray when they fall silent and listen to the sound of God's presence in nature. I once knew someone who prayed while she folded socks.

In whatever way you pray, and whenever you pray, be assured that Jesus knows what's in your heart and that God hears you.

With peace, Pastor Lara

Sunday Worship

10:00 am

In-person
and Livestream

Masks are optional for
in-person worship.
Visit salc.church/media
for livestream worship.



Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting

Sunday, ~~June 9, 11:15 am~~
Meeting is **POSTPONED**

TENTATIVE

Eastside Love & Justice Pride Service

Saturday, **June 22, 1:30 pm**
Celebrate the Spirit of
Pride Month!
See page 2

TENTATIVE

BBQ with PorchLight Friends

Saturday, **June 29, 5:00 pm**
Gather with the men from
PorchLight's Rotating Shelter.
See page 5

SAINT ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

2650 148th Avenue SE; Bellevue, WA 98007-6452 | Phone: 425-746-2529 | Fax: 425-746-3758 | www.SALC.church
The Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church newsletter is a free monthly publication

Temporary Closure of Property begins June 1

Our property and liability insurance expires May 31, 2024, and our policy was not renewed by our current insurance company. Despite diligent efforts, a new insurance carrier/policy has not been secured.

Due to the high level of risk associated with operating without insurance, the Congregation Council voted unanimously to **close** our property to all staff, members, visitors, and building users as of **June 1, 2024** until insurance is back in effect.

For **June 2, 2024**, Saint Andrew's will not hold a worship service, either in-person or online. We encourage you to attend worship at St. Luke's Lutheran Church or Cross of Christ Lutheran Church.

All on-site events at Saint Andrew's prior to June 9 are canceled. Worship on June 9 and events beyond that date are tentative.

Detailed information about this closure was emailed to congregation members on May 29. Contact Communications Specialist Susan Hegedus, susan@salc.church, if you did not receive this communication. 📧

Worship and Music

Committee Name Change

On May 13, 2024, the Congregation Council approved changing the name of the "Worship and Liturgical Arts" committee to "**Worship and Music**". The Saint Andrew's Constitution has been amended to reflect this change, and the current version of the Constitution can be found at salc.church/constitution. Look for the new name throughout Saint Andrew's media. 📧

Worship is at **10:00 am** on Sundays, both **in-person** and via **livestream**.

- Livestream: Visit salc.church/media to access the livestream on YouTube. If you have a Google account, we invite you to offer a greeting or comment in the chat window.

Worship Texts

Series: **Creation Care**

May 26

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

June 2

Job 38:4-38

June 9

Psalms 65

June 16

Psalms 104:1, 10-28

June 23

Leviticus 26:3-22, 34-35, 40-45

June 30

Ezekiel 47:1-12

Worship Videos and

Sermon Notes and

Recordings of past services can be found at SALC.church/sermons

Grad Sunday ~ June 2

POSTPONED

Our in-person celebration and social gathering of our graduates is **POSTPONED** to a future date.

Our high school grads this year are: Lucas Clarke, Emily Elien, Alex Engan, Ian Maland, and Erik Newsum. Please congratulate them as you see them and pray for all our graduates as they celebrate this milestone!

See page 12 to read more about all our graduates! 📧

Timber Ridge Worship

Thursday, **June 6** | **2:00 pm** |

Timber Ridge, Issaquah

Saint Andrew's and Our Savior Lutheran in Issaquah are collaborating to provide monthly Communion services at Timber Ridge, a senior living community in Issaquah. Between our two congregations we have quite a few members who are residents there. The worship services are open to all staff and residents, and are held on the first Thursday of the month at **2:00 pm**. Each congregation alternates responsibility every other month for the service. 📧

Eastside Love & Justice Pride Service

Saturday, **June 22** | **1:30 pm** | *Saint Andrew's Sanctuary* **(TENTATIVE)**

In partnership with St Luke's Lutheran Church, we will host a Pride Worship Service at Saint Andrew's on Saturday, **June 22**.

Its focus is on the principles of Diversity & Respect, Inclusivity & Equality, Allyship, and Belonging and their importance in society and spiritual communities. Four speakers will each address one of these areas. There also will be featured guest music artists from the LGBTQIA+ community, and a one-time pick-up choir called the Love & Justice Pride Singers that will be directed by Cheri Neill, the Music Director at St. Luke's.

Celebrate the Spirit of Pride Month with both the LGBTQIA+ Community AND Allies on Eastside. All are welcome! 📧




Worship and Music


Repurposing the Former Baptismal Font and Christ Candleholder

Previously, the Worship and Music Committee has proposed that the congregation decide how to repurpose the materials from the former baptismal font and Christ candleholder in a way that honors the legacy of those pieces' service in the Saint Andrew's Sanctuary. In a few weeks, you will have the opportunity to share your ideas to do just that.

The Worship and Music Committee will ask that the pieces be put on display, probably in Fellowship Hall, sometime this summer for the process of remembrance and re-imagining how the materials could and should be repurposed. We will provide note paper for you to share your ideas and all will be thoughtfully considered. More information will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.

Sharon Gurtel, Chair. Worship and Music Committee 

Communion Bread

We are always looking for **bread bakers** to make the bread used in Holy Communion. We use the Luther Bread recipe, which has been updated to make it more clear and simple. The Luther Bread recipe and more information is online at salc.church/communion-bread, or contact Jay Baxter or Janell Erickson. 



JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion)

June is PRIDE Month

June is PRIDE month. Here are a few ways to support the LGBTQIA+ community and allies.

JEDI Book Library

The JEDI Group (Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) has a display in the Narthex with a selection of books on Social Justice/Racism. **The books are available for free.** You are encouraged to take them home to read and bring back when you are done.



Bandanas

The JEDI Group has rainbow Northwest Washington Synod Pride bandanas for sale. They are available for a suggested donation of \$8. JEDI purchased the bandanas from the synod for \$5, and the extra funds collected will go to purchasing more books for the JEDI book library in the Narthex. Contact Sherry Grindeland, sherry@salc.church or 425-746-2529, to get your bandana!

Eastside Love & Justice Pride Service

This service is at Saint Andrew's on Saturday, **June 22**, at **1:30 pm**. See page 2 for details.

Synod Pride Events

The Northwest Washington Synod is proud to be a Reconciling in Christ synod - with many opportunities for you and your church family to join in and celebrate PRIDE this season!


Seattle PRIDE Parade ~ June 30: The Synod will be marching in the Seattle PRIDE Parade. We have space for 200 walkers this year. Register by **June 17**. For registration information, visit <https://lutheransnw.org/pages/pride>.

Other PRIDE Events: There are many different PRIDE events happening throughout June and July across our Synod. Visit www.lutheransnw.org/pages/pride for a list of events and more information.



Juneteenth National Independence Day

June 19 is Juneteenth National Independence Day and is a federal holiday. The church office will be closed on Wednesday, **June 19**.

Juneteenth represents the day that all slaves were freed by law in the United States of America. This means that America is trying to moving forward from the past and coming closer together no matter what race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, sex, or religion that we go by. 

Discipleship: Children / Youth and Family Ministries

For Youth in Grades 6-12

SKY Youth Event

Sunday, **June 2** | 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm | 8501 SE 40th Street Mercer Island, WA 98040

All youth grades 6-12 are invited to participate in the SKY Youth (Snohomish and King County Youth) event on Sunday, **June 2**, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church on Mercer Island. Join youth from churches across Snohomish and King Counties for an evening together as we share in fun, food, and faith. There may be youth joining the event who participated in the Fall Retreat and/or the May Youth Weekend at Holden Village. Contact Doug Johnson for more information. 📞

For Everyone!

Cluster Vacation Bible School

We are collaborating with the congregations in our cluster to have a rotating Vacation Bible School (VBS.) The same curriculum will be used at all locations. Join us for a fun week (or weeks) of learning about the love of God!

Saint Andrew's is directly partnering with Cross of Christ Lutheran Church and St. Luke's Lutheran Church to host the Bellevue area VBS.

Volunteers

We are in need of volunteers! Now is the opportunity to help. If you are interested in helping with the VBS in any way contact vbsslutheran@gmail.com.

Sign up for VBS

VBS is open to children and youth pre-kindergarten through grade 6. VBS will be held Monday through Friday, 9:00 am - 12:00 noon, the following weeks:

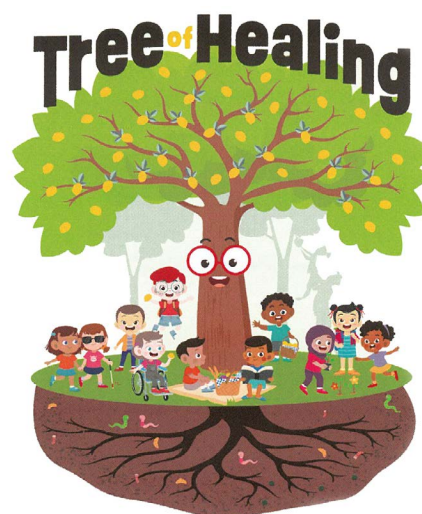
July 15-19 – Cross of Christ Lutheran Church in Bellevue

July 22-26 – Mt. Si Lutheran Church in North Bend

July 29-August 2 – Sammamish Hills Lutheran Church in Sammamish Hills

To register for VBS visit <https://tinyurl.com/5n76tj6j>.

Contact vbsslutheran@gmail.com for more information. 📞



Doug Will be Gone in June

Director of Youth and Family Ministries Doug Johnson will be taking extended time off for most of the month of June. Starting on **June 3** and ending on **June 29**, Doug will be out of the office. This extra time off was granted by the Congregation Council due to Doug's extensive hours worked over the summer of 2023 as well as unused time off. Doug will be back on **June 30**. 📞

Happy Birthday to You!

Happy Birthday to these youth who celebrate birthdays in June!



Kayce B 6/01
Duane R 6/01
Savannah R 6/02
Daniel D 6/11
Andrew G 6/26

Sunday Education Classes Will Resume in the Fall

Sunday Church School, Youth education, and Forums will return in the Fall.

Recordings of past Forums can be found at salc.church/discipleship-hour-adults-page. 📞

Fellowship

Sunday Coffee and Conversation

On Sundays throughout the summer, come before and after worship to enjoy coffee/tea/cocoa, goodies, and informal fellowship! These will resume once the building is re-opened. ☮

Dorcas Circle

Quilting and Luncheon

QUILTING IS POSTPONED

~~Dorcas Circle will meet at 9:30 am on Tuesday, June 4, in Fellowship Hall South to assemble and sew quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). All members and friends of Saint Andrew's are welcome to join us. Sewing skills not required!~~

Other Ways to Help

There are many other ways that you can support our mission of making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, including the following.

- **Donate double, queen, or king size flat sheets that are in good condition, without any tears, holes, or stains.**
- Cut 11-inch quilt squares at home using washable fabrics. Dorcas has a lot of fabric that you can bring home from church to cut into quilt squares.
- Sew quilt tops at home. Quilts need to be 60 inches by 80 inches.
- Donate crochet or embroidery thread (any color) to tie quilts.
- *Note:* LWR does not accept quilts that have any flags or religious symbols.

Donations can be placed in the Dorcas basket near the elevator in the Narthex. If you have any questions please contact Linda Willenberg,



Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting

POSTPONED

~~Sunday, June 9 | 11:15 am (following worship) | Fellowship Hall and via Zoom~~

~~The Semi-Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held following worship at a later date. It is a hybrid meeting. Congregation members will receive the login information for Zoom the week before the meeting.~~

~~At the meeting, we will:~~

- Hear a report on our 2024 finances
- Hear an update from The Housing Task Force
- Discuss and vote on pursuing a request from Silver Oak Montessori School to lease classrooms in South Hall. See the "President's Corner" on page 8 for details about this request.
- Hear an update about the work around the Bellevue Churches Collaboration, and discuss a "Council Statement of Purpose" on this topic.

~~A quorum is needed to vote, and every voice and vote counts! Please plan to attend. ☮~~

Barbecue with PorchLight Friends

Saturday, June 29 | 5:00 pm | Parking Lot

Celebrate Our New Friends!

Join us for a barbecue gathering with our PorchLight friends on Saturday, June 29, in the Saint Andrew's parking lot.

One frequent comment after we've hosted the PorchLight Rotating Shelter for men has been a desire to get to know our guests better.

Plus: we want to celebrate a fun month of working with the PorchLight men and their support team.

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR THIS EVENT. Sign up no later than Thursday, June 27. Sign up in the Narthex or online at salc.church/porchlight-bbq.

We'll be barbecuing hot dogs and providing the buns, condiments, potato salad, and baked beans.

Everyone is asked to bring a 6-pack or 2-liter bottle of pop.

Also, when you make your reservation, sign up to bring a veggie tray, fruit tray, cupcakes, or cookies (enough to serve 8-10 people.)

Questions? Contact Fellowship Coordinator Sherry Grindeland, 425-746-2529 or sherry@salc.church. ☮



Tuesday Morning Men

Every Tuesday | 8:30 am | via Zoom

Tuesday Morning Men meet weekly for book and bible study. Join us for an interesting conversation, prayer, and fellowship!

Bring your Bible and coffee and join us on Tuesday mornings at 8:30 am!

Contact the church office for information on joining this online gathering. All men are welcome!! ☮



Mariners Game with Mt. Si Lutheran

Saturday, June 15 | First pitch at 4:15 pm

We have been invited to participate with Mt. Si Lutheran Church in the Faith and Family Night at T-Mobile Park on Saturday, June 15. **Tickets are limited**, at \$21 each. Contact Terry Adams from Mt. Si at 425-888-1322 for tickets and information. ☮

Health and Wholeness

Prayer

by Pastor Lara Forbes

*Hear my prayer, O Lord;
give ear to my supplications in your faithfulness;
answer me in your righteousness.
Psalm 143:1*

When we think about health and wholeness, we often focus on the physical aspects of what that means. But spiritual health and wholeness is equally as important and, as Christians, prayer is a significant part of our spiritual health. While we most often pray from our heart, speaking whatever words come to mind, in certain situations it's helpful to have some prayers that are already written. Most of these are prayers that are prayed with or for someone, but they can easily be prayed by an individual person.

Prayer before a medical procedure or surgery: Loving God, we pray for your protection for *name* as they face this procedure/surgery. Guide the hands of the medical teams, that all may go as it should – without complication or infection. Comfort *name's* family as they watch and wait. May they all know the presence of your loving care. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Prayer of thanksgiving following a medical procedure or surgery: We give you thanks, O God, that *name's* surgery was successful. Continue to watch over *him/her/them*, and grant *him/her/them* patience as they heal and recover. We ask this in Christ's name. Amen.

Prayer for beginning an extended course of treatment: O God, who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the troubled heart, bring hope and courage to *name* as *she/he/they* wait in uncertainty. Give *him/her/them* courage to endure all that is ahead, for you are our refuge and strength. You are God and we need you. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. (*ELW Pastoral Care*)

Prayer for caregivers: God, our refuge and strength, our present help in time of trouble, care for those who tend the needs of others. Strengthen them in body and spirit. Refresh them when weary; console them when anxious; comfort them in grief; and hearten them in discouragement. Be with us all, and give us peace at all times and in every way; through Christ our peace. Amen. (*ELW Pastoral Care*)

Prayer for entering hospice care: Holy and life-giving God, whose mercy is without end, look with grace upon *name* [and *her/his/their* family and friends] as *they face* the future. Guide those who will accompany *her/him/them* in the days to come, so that *name* will be cared for and comforted. Uphold them all in your abiding love, and sustain them with your peace, which surpasses all understanding; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. (*ELW Pastoral Care*)

Prayer for healing and wholeness: God of compassion, your Son Jesus Christ, the great physician, made the broken whole and healed the sick. Touch our wounds, relieve our hurts, and restore to us wholeness of life, through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. (*ELW Pastoral Care*)

Personal prayer for someone experiencing loneliness: Merciful God, in the stillness of my soul I listen for your voice to know again that you are God. Quiet my restless heart with the knowledge that you are near me, keeping watch over your own. Rekindle my faith and light the lamp of hope within my heart. Then take me by the hand into each day that lies ahead, for where you lead I can confidently go with Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen. (*ELW Prayerbook for the Armed Services*)

Personal prayer for someone who is in despair: God of all hope, I confess that there are many times I find it hard to hold on to hope. The problems seem huge and without solution. Often I dread each new day and wonder if I can take another step into the future without fear. Yet you have promised to be with me always. Do not abandon me now. Come to me by your Spirit and lead me to a new day of hope. Amen. (*ELW Prayerbook for the Armed Services*)

Other things to keep in mind:

- When you are praying with or for someone, honesty is important. Acknowledge whatever emotion they may be feeling in that moment and express that in the prayer.
- There are prayers in the Bible, including: Psalm 23, Psalm 27, Psalms 146-150, and the Lord's Prayer. It's also helpful to pray using the words and/or music from your favorite hymn. Listening to and for God's voice, and even crying (and sobbing, and yelling) are forms of prayer, too.

Remember, too, that there is no right or wrong way to pray. And in the times when words fail us and we don't know what to pray, we are assured that God's Spirit intercedes on our behalf (Romans 8:26-27). 🙏

Health and Wholeness

KnitWits

Saint Andrew's KnitWits (Knitting as Witnesses) is a fellowship group whose primary mission is to provide items of comfort that are knit or crocheted. Their on-going projects include prayer shawls, baptismal blankets, lapghans, baby blankets, baby booties, chemo caps, hats, wash cloths, sweaters, and scarves. The work of the KnitWits' hands keeps many people warm and reminds them that someone cares.

The KnitWits meet in-person on the third Sunday of each month following worship. The next meeting is Sunday, **June 16, at 11:15 am.** Location is to be determined. All are welcome! Contact KnitWits coordinator Dianne Chong for more information. 🕊

Climate Change is Bad for our Health

by Jeff Thiel

Human health and wellbeing are inextricably intertwined with the health and wellbeing of God's creation. God created a "goldilocks" planet that is just right for human flourishing and charged us with the responsibility to care for it.

Yet we have failed to execute that responsibility, putting the health of God's creation at grave risk. The United Nations has announced a "code red" for the planet. In a hospital, "code red" is reserved for cardiac arrest or similar incidents where the life of the patient is at immediate risk. The planetary vital sign to watch is the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. From analyzing air bubbles trapped in glacial ice, scientists have learned that CO2 never exceeded 280 parts per million (PPM) for 800,000 years. Then it shot up to 425 PPM in just 100 years. The earth's temperature is rising as a result. To bring down the earth's fever, scientists agree that we must stop burning fossil fuels. Instead, we set new records for greenhouse gas emissions in 2023.

Human health is already suffering from climate change. The World Health Organization defines climate change as "the single biggest health threat facing humanity", noting that "over 90 per cent of people breathe unhealthy levels of air pollution, largely resulting from burning fossil fuels driving climate change". Climate change is causing more heat-related illnesses, cardiopulmonary illnesses like asthma, food, water, and insect-borne diseases, and mental health problems such as anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorders. The June 2021 Heat Dome in our region caused hundreds of deaths related to heat exposure. Concern about climate change coupled with worry about the future is causing



more people to experience fear, anger, powerlessness, exhaustion, stress, and sadness. All these health problems are having the greatest impact on vulnerable populations who have done the least to contribute to climate change.

"Physician, heal thyself" is an ancient proverb appearing in Luke 4:23. We have the cure for what ails our planet. Clean energy is now the cheapest form of energy the world has ever known. Each one of us must help administer the cure by switching from fossil fuel to electricity to heat and cool our homes and power our transportation. Both our health and the health of the God's creation depend on it. 🕊

Pastoral Acts

Baptisms

None

Weddings

None

Memorial Services

Marilyn Ann Edde, May 3, 2024

Charles "Chuck" Everett Thomas, May 25, 2024, Mt. Si Lutheran Church, North Bend

Committals

Marilyn Ann Edde, May 5, 2024, Saint Andrew's Memorial Garden; Pastor James McEachran

Congregation Council

President's Corner

from Carolynn Ferris, Congregation Council President

Worship and Liturgical Arts / Music Name Change

The Worship and Liturgical Arts (WLA) committee requested that their name be changed to “Worship and Music” to more clearly reflect the work that they do. Because the original name was a part of the Continuing Resolutions in our Constitution, Council needed to vote to approve this change. This was done in our May Council meeting and from now on, you will see this committee referred to as Worship and Music.

Silver Oak Montessori School - Due Diligence

Recently, we were approached by the Silver Oak Montessori School about the possibility of renting space in our South Hall. After taking a tour of our facilities, they let us know that they were very interested in renting six of the classrooms on the lower floor of that wing. Silver Oak Montessori would likely start with approximately 25 children from 1 – 5-1/2 years of age but may increase that number in the coming years. They hope to be able to open their school at our location in September of this year. Their mission is particularly attractive as they serve lower-income families. This aligns very well with our mission to “Grow together in Christ to love and serve all people”. Council has endorsed continuing to pursue the possibility of leasing this space.

As you likely remember when we were working with the Emerald Heights Academy, we need to determine what, if any, building improvements need to be made if we were to lease the space. To help us determine these requirements, we engaged Poppi Handy, managing partner for Third Place Design, to help us. She and an associate are working with the City of Bellevue to determine what upgrades need to be made to qualify as an “E” (Education) occupancy for that area of our building.

They have completed a preliminary review of City code and believe that religiously owned properties can house an Educational use “by right” – meaning it is already allowed by Code. If this is the case, we will not have to get a Conditional Use Permit. (This is a big deal as that process is expensive and very time-consuming). Poppi is working to schedule a meeting with City staff to get a final ruling on what will be required to allow Silver Oak Montessori to lease our space.

We do not yet know how much revenue would be generated, nor do we have certainty about what, if any, building improvements may need to be made to accommodate them. However, if we do want to enter into a lease with the Montessori School, the congregation must vote to authorize the Council or Executive Committee to work out the terms of the lease. At our Semi-Annual meeting (date to be determined), this topic will likely be discussed and potentially voted upon.

Cluster Partnership Statement of Support

In our May Council meeting, we discussed and approved making a formal statement supporting the work that is being done to explore ways we might be in partnership with other churches in our Cluster.

This statement reads as follows:

Lay leaders and Pastors for the Lutheran churches in East King County (Saint Andrew's, Cross of Christ, St. Luke's, Our Savior, Mt. Si and Sammamish Hills) have been meeting over the past three years to discuss how we can work more closely together to be more effective witnesses for Christ in East King County, serve our communities more impactfully, and better steward our resources. All churches are experiencing declining attendance and giving, and fewer families are joining our congregations. We have experienced these trends for over two decades, but the pace accelerated during the COVID epidemic. Each church is also facing critical staffing decisions. It is time to find a new path forward rather than simply hoping that things will get better.

The leadership of the three Bellevue churches (Saint Andrew's, St. Luke's, and Cross of Christ) recognize that we have the advantage of being relatively close to one another and that we may be more poised than the remaining churches to take meaningful steps forward in exploring what might be possible in coming together in partnership for mission. Pastors, representatives from Council, and several key stakeholders are meeting regularly to develop more specific plans for how we can collaborate and potentially redefine how we “do church”. Our hope is that we can set the stage for this partnership in the hopes that the other churches within our Cluster will join when and if they are ready.

We understand that there is a great deal more work and reflection to be done, and there are a host of questions that need to be answered. But the leadership team believes that forming an “enterprise” congregation with multiple sites is an exciting potential solution. Each Bellevue site would continue with their current worship and ministry practices but look for ways to learn from one another and possibly approach various aspects of ministry collectively

(continued on page 9)

Congregation Council

(continued from page 8)

when appropriate. At the enterprise level, efficiency and cost savings are possible by using common software and by sharing staffing for communications, bookkeeping, and some pastoral tasks.

We believe that God is leading us to explore new and exciting ways to worship and be in mission with fellow Lutheran churches in our Synod cluster. We are in prayerful discernment as we discuss many ideas for partnership. It will take many months, if not years, to fully explore how this might occur. And along the way, there will be multiple opportunities to take an “off ramp” if the vision becomes impractical or unhelpful.

The Saint Andrew’s Congregation Council supports this vision of a partnership but also recognizes that there are concerns many members may have. We will continue to communicate what is going on in the monthly VOICE newsletter, in periodic listening post forums and at the congregational meetings of the Congregation. We will actively seek out ideas, concerns, and viewpoints as we explore where God may be leading us.

We are excited about the possibilities that could be generated by this partnership. We know that working together we can more faithfully steward our abundant resources and have an even greater missional impact. We pray that God will guide us and help us accomplish His will.

Council plans to set up several “mini forums” after church to allow people to ask questions and share their ideas and concerns as we work our way through this discernment. In addition, we will include a link on our website where documents, FAQs, and other information can be readily shared and updated as we go along.

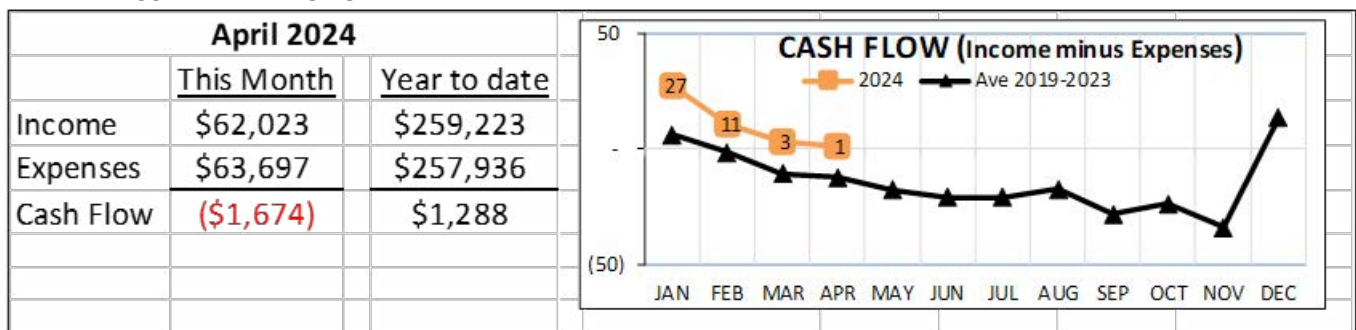
There is much more work to be done to discover opportunities for partnership as well as understand what obstacles may exist. It will likely be at least a year or two before we come to a time for making any final decisions. But along the way, we will see where there are obvious opportunities to implement ideas of shared ministry and administration in the nearer term.

This is an exciting time. We don’t yet know what God has in mind for us, but we will pray for his guidance and strength of spirit.

Yours in Christ, Carolynn Ferris ☩

Treasurer Note\$

from Bill Brueggemann, Congregation Treasurer



Comments

April was almost a break-even month. Cash flow was slightly negative for the month and is slightly positive for the year. Expenses are less than budgeted so far in 2024.

The slow summer months are coming. Please consider making your pledged donations during these months to avoid the large negative balances we often experience.

You may contribute in many ways:

- Ask your bank to automatically send a check periodically to Saint Andrew’s.
- Donate from your bank account or credit card by going to salc.church/giving-options and selecting the “Tithe.ly Online Giving” button. NOTE: a processing fee is charged for electronic transactions (the church will pay this or you can opt to cover the fee.)
- Mail or drop off cash or checks to the church.
- On Sundays, you can drop cash or checks into the offering plate.
- Transfer shares of stock or required IRA distributions. Please contact Bill Brueggemann for the necessary forms.

Please contact me at bill@salc.church if you have any questions. ☩

Congregation Council

At the May 13 Congregation Council Meeting....

Pastor Lara led a “Dwelling in the Word” devotion on Colossians 3:12-17.

Growing Young: Abby Kasper and members of the Growing Young Team presented their goals for 2024-2026. The Council and Team discussed ways the Council can help implement these goals and what the next steps can be.

President Carolynn Ferris’ Report: See President Carolynn Ferris’ “President’s Corner” report on page 8.

Committee Name Change: The Council **approved changing “Worship and Liturgical Arts” committee to “Worship and Music”.**

Pastor Lara Forbes’ Report:

- Pastor Lara reported that the first Communion Service at Timber Ridge was held on May 2 and it went very well with 30 people in attendance. All of them appreciated our time and willingness to hold these services.
- In partnership with St Luke’s Lutheran Church, we will host a **Pride Worship Service** at Saint Andrew’s on June 22. See “Eastside Love & Justice Pride Service” on page 2 for details.

Silver Oak Montessori School:

- Silver Oak Montessori School has approached Saint Andrew’s to lease classrooms in South Hall. Their mission is to serve low-income families.
- The congregation needs to authorize the Executive Committee or Council to proceed with exploring the request and negotiating a potential lease. The Council **approved a resolution that recommends that a vote be taken in the June 9, 2024 Semi-Annual meeting authorizing Council or the Executive Committee to negotiate a lease on behalf of the congregation with Silver Oak Montessori.**

Finance: See Treasurer Bill Brueggemann’s “Treasurer Notes” on page 9. In addition:

- A **Bequest Task Force** has been formed to develop a policy and procedures for determining the use of unrestricted bequests given to Saint Andrew’s. Dave Vossler is the chair.

Council Resolution on Bellevue Churches Collaboration:

- The Council discussed a Council resolution supporting the ongoing work of Bellevue Churches Collaboration.
- The Council **approved the resolution in principle with edits to the initially proposed wording.**

Packets containing minutes from Council meetings and reports from all committees are available to review in the church office and by request. Contact the church office, info@salc.church or 425-746-2529. 📄

Northwest Washington Synod

Synod Assembly Recap

Published in *The Spirit*, June 2024 edition

The Synod Assembly held on May 18, 2024, was attended by a total of 337 synod members including 275 voting members, six observers, and 56 visitors/volunteers. We give thanks to our host congregation, Grace Lutheran Church in Des Moines, to all who assisted in the planning and leadership of the day, and to all the attendees.

We began our time together in worship – centered on our theme, “We Lift Our Eyes” – from Psalm 121. It was a joy-filled service with special music from Grace Lutheran Church Music Director Amy Boers, the GLC Choir, and members of the Mariachi Club from Pacific Lutheran University. During the service, we officially installed Reverend Judy Brennan as our Director for Evangelical Mission. We are grateful that we received over \$5600 in offering that will be shared between Lutheran Community Services Northwest (LCSNW), Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR), and the NW Washington Synod Bishop’s Caring Fund (supports rostered leaders by providing scholarships and emergency aid). THANK YOU for your generosity!

Assembly business items included approving the recommended changes to our synod constitution that were forwarded from the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly and the 2025 Synod Budget. The presented budget was amended to include increased compensation for our rostered synod staff members so that they would receive synod guidelines. (A note from the bishop: while this budget approval is an affirming sign and appreciated, it also calls for increased mission support from our congregations. Please encourage your congregation leaders to prayerfully consider increasing your congregation’s mission support this year.)

(continued on page 11)

FINAL CREDENTIALS REPORT	
Synod Assembly + May 18, 2024	
Total Voting Members: 275	
Total Lay Persons: 170	Persons of Color or Language other than English: 28
Women: 96	Youth Members (under 18): 8
Men: 70	Young Adults (18-30): 15
Non-Binary: 4	Observers: 6
Total Rostered Ministers: 105	Visitors: 56
Word & Service (Deacons): 7	
Word & Sacrament (Pastors): 98	

Northwest Washington Synod

(continued from page 10)

Following Synod Council approval, the assembly joyfully received our newest congregation, Hope Church in Lake Stevens. Originally a Covenant Congregation, they left that denomination and began exploring what it would mean to become an ELCA congregation. They began renting from Holy Cross Lutheran in Lake Stevens and had many conversations about what it might mean to do ministry together. Although that partnership never came to fruition, through those discussions Hope discerned a call to stay in Lake Stevens and become an ELCA congregation.

In addition to the written reports shared ahead of the assembly, we received oral reports from our Synod Officers: Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee, Vice President Kay Edgerton, Treasurer Bart Brosten, and Synod Secretary Rev. Netsie Griffith. These reports are posted on our assembly webpage: <https://www.lutheransnw.org/synod-assembly>

Additionally, we shared video reports and stories from Ministry Partners and Synod Committees. You will find these – and written reports received – also posted on our assembly webpage. Look for a link to view a recording of the full assembly to be posted on the synod website soon.

A handful of synod members donned fun flame headbands to share stories of how the Spirit is working in our synod in new or surprising ways. We heard about a group of youth ministry leaders joining forces to offer opportunities for their young people; how one congregation is being transformed by the welcome and inclusion of Spanish-speaking neighbors; how another congregation challenged themselves to learn more about what it means to welcome and support a leader of color; how one cluster of congregations is collaborating to support one another in new ways; and how a passion for archery is creating a new sacred space. (Look for more of these stories next year!)

Finally, we held elections for Synod Council, the Committee on Discipline, the Consultation Committee, and for 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly Voting Members. THANK YOU to all the nominees for allowing their names to go forward for consideration. We are so grateful to have such talented and gifted people open to serving! Below you will find the roles and names of those who were elected at this assembly:

Synod Council

- David Kinner (Youth from Pointe of Grace, Mukilteo)
- Sam Martinez
(Young Adult from Christ the Servant, Bellingham)
- Sherianne Caldwell
(Layperson from Immanuel, Seattle)
- Dan Squires (Layperson from Our Savior's, Everett)
- Elly Stitt (Layperson from Prince of Peace, Shoreline)
- Deacon Luke Allgeyer
(Columbia City Church of Hope, Seattle)
- Rev. Andy Arnold
(Shepherd of the Valley, Maple Valley)
- Rev. Paul Eldred (Central, Seattle)
- Rev. Sam Sseba (Prince of Peace, SeaTac)

Committee on Discipline

- Rev. Glen Aaberg (Hospice Chaplain)
- David Foster-Koth (Faith, Seattle)
- Rev. Jory Mickelson (Faith, Bellingham)
- Deacon Marie Preftes-Arenz
(Faith of N. Lakewood, Marysville)
- Bob Spencer (Our Savior's, Everett)

Consultation Committee

- John Fairbairn (Faith, Bellingham)
- Rev. Katherine GrayBuck
(Church of the Apostles, Seattle)
- Rev. Kari Lipke (Gethsemane, Seattle)
- Eric Peoples (First, Bothell)

Voting Members to the 2025 Churchwide Assembly

- include 3 rostered ministers and 6 laypersons. Of those in the delegation, 1 is a youth, 2 are young adults, 1 person identifies as non-binary, and 3 are persons of color:
- Dante Austin (Immanuel, Seattle)
 - Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee (Faith, Everett)
 - Vice President Kay Edgerton (Nativity, Renton)
 - Rev. Ivar Hillesland (Church of the Apostles, Seattle)
 - Rev. Kristi Lambing (Fir-Conway, Mount Vernon)
 - Seth Lambing (Pointe of Grace, Mukilteo)
 - Rachel Pritchett (Bethany, Bainbridge Island)
 - Kasey Shultz (Columbia City Church of Hope, Seattle)
 - Nisar Stephen (Grace, Des Moines)

Our next synod assembly will be held next year at the Edward D. Hansen Conference Center in downtown Everett. This will be a two-day assembly on May 16-17, 2025. In addition to reports, approving a budget, electing persons to various roles, we will be holding an election for bishop. Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee announced to those gathered that she is willing to serve another term if nominated and elected. (Look for more information soon from the Synod Council about the Bishop Election Process.)

We are so grateful for each of you. And together, in thankfulness, we lift our eyes to God, to each other, and to our neighbor, trusting that our help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth! 🙏

Graduates!

Congratulations to all who are graduating,
and blessings to you as you continue your life's journey!

From High School:

Lucas Clarke:

Graduating from Newport High School
Plans for Next Year: Going to St. Olaf College in the Fall. He's excited to play baseball at St. Olaf!
Favorite memory of Saint Andrew's: Playing sock samurai!

Emily Elien:

Graduating from Bellevue Big Picture School
Plans for Next Year: Going to UCLA with a planned major in Astrophysics
Favorite memory of Saint Andrew's: Her favorite memory is just singing the spirituals at the end of service where everyone is dancing with the music.

Alexander Engan:

Graduating from Issaquah High School
Plans for Next Year: Heading to University of Washington
Honors and Special Accomplishments: Eagle Scout
Favorite memory of Saint Andrew's: I think my favorite memory of Saint Andrew's was when I was still in Sunday school and I could have fun and play with the other kids when there were 10 kids in each grade.

Erik Allen Newsum:

Graduating from Newport High School
Plans for Next Year: Western Washington University - Major: Computer Science, Minor: Music
Special Honors and Accomplishments: CCNA, Eagle Scout, Louis Armstrong Jazz Award
Favorite memory of Saint Andrew's: Playing Sock Samurai!

Other Degrees:

Melissa (Szabo) Arbiter:

Graduating on June 11 from the University of Oslo, Norway with a Master's Degree in Development, Environment and Cultural Change. Melissa is the daughter of Dick and Debbie Szabo. Melissa and her family moved to Norway summer 2022.

Isabella Clarke:

Graduated from Dickinson College
Plans for Next Year: Heading to the University of Houston for her master's degree in philosophy.
Favorite memory of Saint Andrew's: Favorite memories are mission trips with Saint Andrew's peers and adults to Chicago and servant adventures through Lutherhaven.

Sarah Hobson:

Graduating from UCLA with a BA in Economics. Sarah is daughter of Sam and Erika Hobson, and granddaughter of Dean and Shirley Hobson.

Ainsley Laub:

Graduated with Honors from Gonzaga University with a degree in Applied Mathematics with a concentration in Computer Science and a Secondary Teaching Certification. She will begin teaching at Tahoma High School in the Fall.

Colin Robitaille:

Graduated from Washington State University with a degree in Communications. Colin is the grandson of Judy Thiel.



If you have a graduate who is not recognized here, we would love to include their accomplishments in the next issue of *the VOICE*. Send their name, where they are graduating from, and future plans to Susan Hegedus, susan@SALC.church or 425-746-2529, by **June 24** to include in the next newsletter.

Outreach and Servant Ministries

Our Core Ministries....

Core Outreach Ministries of Saint Andrew's are specific areas of ministry which congregation members are most involved in with various resources, including time, expertise, and financial resources. Our *Core Outreach Ministries* are:

- ~ Affordable Housing/Homelessness
- ~ Food Security
- ~ Christian Education non-profits
- ~ Local Ministries
- ~ Global Missions

Ministry of the Month for June ~ Backpack Meal for Kids

Most Generous God, we ask your blessing on the Backpack Meals for Kids ministry.

Provide what it needs to fulfill its mission of supplying food to kids in need, to keep them from going hungry on the weekends. Bless the volunteers whose time and effort make this work possible. Watch over and protect the kids who depend on this food so they can come to school on Mondays ready to learn. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.



Our Mission

“To ensure that every child in the Bellevue School District who needs food will receive a pack of food to bring home for the weekend. We believe that this will enable the child to be nourished and can succeed in school.”

Background

Backpack Meals for Kids is a community based non-profit organization run entirely by volunteers. The program is entering its 14th year taking on the challenge of feeding kids experiencing food insecurity within the Bellevue School District.

From the first of September 2023 to the end of March 2024, we have distributed over 26,000 packs of food for the weekend to 1200 children. The children can choose their type of food from six menus.

How Saint Andrew's Members are Involved

In August of 2023 the youth from Saint Andrew's and other churches doing the tiny house build at Mt. Si Lutheran Church put together 200 pre-school packs to be distributed in September 2023. Then at the March 2024 OWLS (Older Wiser Lutheran Saints) gathering 400 packs were put together in record time by Saint Andrew's members.

There are several members of Saint Andrew's already involved as volunteers. Shirley Hobson, Ed Corker, and Jay Baxter deliver meals and Joe Banuelos helps with the loading of the cars.

Current Opportunities to Support

Volunteer to help distribute meals during the school year on Thursdays. It is easy and you can choose your schools.

Through the Outreach portion of our church budget, we provide monies to purchase food that goes into the meal packets. You can also donate to help with the purchasing of food; visit www.backpackmeals.org/donate.

Contact Jay Baxter for more information.



Outreach and Servant Ministries

PORCHLIGHT Men's Rotating Shelter

We have been planning, ordering supplies, getting volunteers, and preparing to host the PorchLight Rotating Shelter at Saint Andrew's from May 31 to July 1.

Due to the temporary closure of Saint Andrew's property, we are unable to accommodate them until a new insurance policy has been secured. Contact Cheryl Jurrus for the most up-to-date information.

Plans to host the Shelter at another location are being made, and Saint Andrew's will help support the program at that location with volunteers, supplies, and breakfasts.

The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints will be providing dinners and lunches most of the month.Carolynn Ferris is purchasing athletic shoes for each of the men. We have volunteers to shop for perishable groceries, write welcome cards, and welcome the men and meal providers from **6:00 pm to 7:00 pm**.

WE STILL NEED:

- **Donations** to cover the cost of supplies (cleaning, toilet paper, paper towels, coffee, paper plates and cups, laundry detergent, etc.). If you want to contribute to this ministry, mark a check "PorchLight Hosts for June" and put it in the offering or mail it to the church.
- **Hosts** to welcome the men and the meal providers from **6:00 pm to 7:00 pm**. Contact Cheryl Jurrus if you can help.



The Rotating Shelter is a special program for 20 - 25 men who are "clean and sober" and are on the path to stable housing. Most of them have jobs. Thank you for supporting this important ministry! 🙏

Corner of Blessing Collection Emphasis through June 7 KidVantage 10th Annual Diaper Derby



We are in the Home Stretch!

Saint Andrew's Lutheran is once again participating in the KidVantage (formerly called Eastside Baby Corner) 10th Annual Diaper Derby. The event runs **to June 7**. This is our 5th year "racing."

In 2023, 37 participating companies and organizations collected more than 127,000 diapers for kids living in our community. This kept babies dry and healthy while also removing a serious barrier to stability for families. However, the need has been greater than what donations brought in so every diaper counts!

How the Derby Works:

- Points are attached to each diaper donated and for packages of wipes. The larger sizes (size 4 and up and well as pull-ups) are most needed.
- Each "race horse" is in a race with like-sized organizations. We have a chance to be the best in our class!

You can donate financially through the KidVantage website: <https://kidvantenw.org/diaper-derby/> under our "horse" name **DANDYANDY** or **Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church**.

The last of the diapers on hand at church will be delivered to KidVantage no later than **June 7** by members of the Outreach and Servant Ministries committee.

Let's help our struggling young families to not have to choose between feeding the family or buying diapers! For more information, contact Liz Rudolph. 🙏



Outreach and Servant Ministries

The Sophia Way

Thank you to the members of Saint Andrew's!

From Megan Duncan, Community Engagement Coordinator: *"Your generosity has truly made a difference in the lives of women in our community"*.

I know this is true!

I am very honored to be able to work with the women at Sophia's Place.

The ladies are always so welcoming, thrilled to have someone else to listen, excited to be served lunch, pleased that they have a "constant" friend.

Lunches

Saint Andrew's provides good lunches on the 4th Wednesday of every other month.

The ladies were treated to a hot meat loaf and mashed potatoes lunch on May 22! (It was met with many cheers!)

Our next lunch will be on Wednesday, **July 24**, with food donation pick-up on Tuesday, **July 23**.


Other Ways to Help

We can also continue to support The Sophia Way by donating through the Amazon Wish List.

Some of the items on the List will be supplied to the women at an Event on **June 2**. It will be a Summer Community Brunch, where the women will have a chance to "shop" for clothing and supplies, get haircuts, play games and enjoy BBQ food! Useful items and a joyful day!

If you would like to help The Sophia Way in any way, or would like to donate toward our next lunch, please let Joyce Arnold know. You can also help supply the pantry and refrigerator with necessary items.

Thank you and Blessings to you all!


Joyce Arnold 



Christmas is Coming!

The Saint Andrew's Family is celebrating Christmas early this year – in **July**.

Because of the overwhelming need at two of our favorite children's organizations, KidVantage and Lantern Hill, we're collecting donations, toys, and clothing in July.

Look for a list of suggested donations in upcoming Sunday bulletins and in the July/August issue of *the VOICE*. 



Lantern Hill, Mexico

Lantern Hill Spring News!

From Lantern Hill:

Our biggest news for 2024 is that we have broken ground on a brand new lot where we will build large gymnasium and four new larger classrooms to accommodate our growing numbers. Located at the entrance of the community, this building will be a bright light for all to see. The excitement is growing and the students feel safe in their community that supports and cares for them



Bloom

Spring has sprung at Lantern Hill! The sun is shining after a rainy winter and the flowers are blossoming. What a beautiful time to recognize the metaphor of seeing something bloom. The students at Lantern Hill are also blooming more and more every day. With a community center full of life, children have access to one on one teacher time, educational games, physical education, and meals that fill their bellies. Children are able to grow and become what they dream to be. The younger students have positive examples of older students in high school and college who give back with their time and talents. They are truly an inspiration to the younger children at Lantern Hill. It's an exciting time of growth with nine students in college and many more on the way!

Karen ~ Our First Dental School Student

Lantern Hill has now been in the community long enough that children have grown up in the program and are pursuing their dreams at the university level. Karen is one of these students. She has faithfully participated since she was in elementary school. She is our first student to go to dental school. Not only did she get into a good university program, but she was the first student to have to leave the small community and travel to Tijuana for her first year to study medicine. Tijuana is three hours north of Cañón Buena Vista, where her family lives, but her desire to study this career has motivated her to take this journey of self discovery and accomplish her goals. Lantern Hill believes in Karen and supports her dream of becoming an oral surgeon. Lantern Hill assists Karen with a scholarship, housing, textbooks, and equipment. Karen has promised to pay it forward and help the students and families of Lantern Hill with their dental needs in the future!

For more information about Lantern Hill or for information about donating, see us on Facebook at either Lantern Hill or Friends of Lantern Hill, Instagram at Friends of Lantern Hill, or connect with Shana Nielsen.

www.friendsoflanternhill.org

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofLanternHill>


<https://www.facebook.com/lantern.hill.7>



Outreach and Servant Ministries

MaaSAE Girls Lutheran Secondary School (MGLSS), Tanzania


Pray for the 33 post-Form Six graduates! This is a most vulnerable time for them, vulnerable for pregnancy and for an arranged marriage that they would not choose for themselves. Most will now go for 3 months of national service, assigned to various duties around the country. In the fall will come the exam results and the frantic efforts to register for higher education or vocational training. May God keep them safe and prepare them for their futures!

Visit <https://bootstrapafrica.org/> to learn more about Operation Bootstrap-Africa and its work. If you have questions, contact Jean Wahlstrom. 



Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission (NELM)

Patterson Yazzie, the director, sends us a message of thankfulness to God as they are about to complete their school year for grades Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 3. Please pray for the children at home this summer and for the teachers and staff as they plan and prepare for the next year! Pray also for the many on-going activities of the Mission that continue: the Hozho Café feeding program, St. Mary's Food Bank, the fresh water well provision, the many maintenance projects, the worship at House of Prayer Lutheran Church, the mobile medical clinic located onsite, and times for rest and renewal of the staff. As they recover from the pandemic which was so impacting on the Navajo, they anticipate adding Grade Four in the fall.

Please continue to pray for the people of this northern Arizona community. Visit <https://www.nelm.org> for further information, to donate, and to sign up for their regular newsletter. 




Kafika House, Tanzania

Let us rejoice!! With new leadership in the North Central Lutheran Diocese in Arusha, Tanzania, the bishop, and the general secretary have invited KAFIKA HOUSE (formerly known as The Plaster House) to return to their original site in Ngaramtoni, just outside Arusha. It is the site that was designed and built for the purpose of their work: providing a high love, low-cost, post-surgical treatment of children! They will keep their current administrative headquarters at the Them Hill site in east Arusha, but the most important and valuable treatment and accommodation departments will move back starting June 1. They will continue to develop the needed surgical center on newly purchased land in Likamba, west of Arusha. Also, Kafika House Director Sarah Rejman has now negotiated with several surgical centers in Arusha who can provide the best care appropriate for the specific need at the least expense. The new sites, located more distantly in Moshi and Karatu, continue to function well. As Sarah wrote, "the dream is happening in real time." Almost daily more children are being treated, enabled to return to normal lives.

In March they opened KAFIKA HOUSE **MOSHI** where the focus is on children with spina bifida and hydrocephalus. Their mamas stay with them on site enabling a different model of care for a longer healing journey. Sarah, the Director, met with Cure Children's Hospital in Kenya who provide surgical care for children living with disabilities. She also visited Bethany Kids who provide training to pediatric surgeons. She also joined the Tanzania Management and Development for Health team to further rehabilitation services, developing Basic Standards for Specialized Rehabilitation Hospitals organized by the Ministry of Health. KAFIKA HOUSE is taking their place alongside the people shaping Tanzania's rehabilitative health plans and policies. These relationships are key to expanding the ministry of KAFIKA HOUSE.

While Sarah has been making connections, the surgeons, nurses, and anesthetists of One World Medical Relief have recently returned. They transformed the lives of 55 children with cleft lip and palate, birth defects, and burn scar contractures. All volunteered their time and talent to surgeries and training. We praise God for the gifts of healing and thank you for your support of the unique work of KAFIKA HOUSE

Learn more at kafikahouse.org and friendsofkafikahouse.org. If you have questions, contact Jean Wahlstrom. 



KAFIKA HOUSE
Transforming childhood

Outreach and Servant Ministries

Collection Emphasis for Hopelink ~ June



Hopelink is gearing up for their **End Summer Hunger** program to support families with school-aged children. During the summer, these children no longer have access to the feeding programs at school. During June, Hopelink has asked us to collect Peanut Butter and Jelly (jam) to support their End Summer Hunger program.

So, when the building re-opens, we will be collecting:

- **Peanut Butter** (about 16-ounce jars) - other (non-peanut) butters are OK.
- **Jelly or Jam** (about 12-to-20-ounce jars)



You can also support Hopelink's **End Summer Hunger** program through their Amazon Wishlist at <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/30FK1RUVVPWF4Y> or [click here](#).

Hopelink always appreciates the paper bags we supply to them. They are eager to get them and make them available to their clients. 🙏

Hopelink has asked us to continue to collect **paper grocery bags**. They have an ongoing need for these.



Snippets of Gratitude

Personal Care Kits ~ Thank You!

Share with the Lord's People who are in need.
Romans 12:13

The Health and Wholeness Ministry Committee wishes to thank everyone who donated items for the personal care kits. You were very generous. A special thank you to people who washed all the towels and to the ones who helped assemble and box the kits. We were able to assemble **154 kits**. Thanks to Dick and Debbie Szabo and Sherry Grindeland who delivered the kits and our quilts to a church in Ballard for shipment to Lutheran World Relief. They will then be given to people in need throughout the world. 🙏

Day of Service ~ Thank You!

Ann sends a big THANK YOU to the Team from Saint Andrew's who helped to clean up her yard on Saturday, May 18. The Day of Service was a morning of great fellowship, nice weather (fortunately), and a lot of hard work. There was lots to do and everyone jumped right in raking, weeding and hauling these piles, sweeping, pressure washing, and a lot of other yard tasks. Thanks to the team of 10 hard workers: Steve and Kristin Gustafson, Andrew Gustafson, Philip Gustafson, Sam Gustafson, Erik Johnson, Kellen Johnson, Susan Hegedus, and Debbie and Dick Szabo. 🙏

A Toast to Bread and Jam Volunteers

Thanks to everyone who helped with the recent Bread and Jam Fellowship event.

The list of helpers includes:

Ed Corker for the red-white-and blue set-up

Alex Nichols-Hicks for baking gluten free bread, for help setting up and most importantly – opening those darn jars.

Joan Tweten for coffee service set up and for making clean up and dishwashing look easy.

Terri Anderson for her delicious whole wheat bread, jam and clean up efforts.

Ann Thorpe, Sarah Cannon, Linda Quinn, Joyce Arnold, Jay Baxter, Michele and David Vossler for setting up, serving, and clean-up help.

Tom Getzinger for encouraging folks to stay after church for the event and to Susan Hegedus for making the marvelous signs at the last minute.

Fun events like Bread and Jam take many hands.

Thank you - Sherry Grindeland 🙏


June 2024

For current information,
visit salc.church/calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May - 26	May - 27	May - 28	May - 29	May - 30	May - 31	Jun - 1
<p>Jun - 2</p> <p>9a - 9:45a SALC - Coffee and Conversation</p> <p>10a - 11a SALC - Sunday Worship</p> <p>OFFSITE</p> <p>6:30p - 8p SALC - SKY Youth Event</p>	<p>Jun - 3</p> <p>10a - 11:30a SALC - Health and Wholeness Ministry</p> <p>1p - 2p SALC - Saint Andrew's Staff Meeting</p> <p>2p - 3p SALC - Shelter Host Team</p> <p>4p - 5p SALC - Executive Committee</p> <p>6p - 7p SALC - Finance Committee</p>	<p>Jun - 4</p> <p>8:30a - 9:30a SALC - Tuesday Morning Men</p> <p>9:30a - 12:30p SALC - Bereas Circle (Override)</p> <p>12p - 1:30p SALC - Bereas Circle Luncheon</p>	<p>Jun - 5</p>	<p>Jun - 6</p> <p>OFFSITE</p> <p>2p - 3p SALC - Timber Ridge Worship</p>	<p>Jun - 7</p> <p>ALL DAY SALC - Office closed on Fridays</p>	<p>Jun - 8</p>
<p>On-site Events before June 9 are CANCELED.</p> <p>Worship on June 9 and on-site events after June 9 are TENTATIVE</p>						
<p>Jun - 9</p> <p>10a - 11a SALC - Sunday Worship</p> <p>11:15a - 12:15p SALC - KnitWits (Knitting as Witnesses)</p>	<p>Jun - 10</p> <p>10a - 11a SALC - Saint Andrew's Staff Meeting : Saint Andrew's Staff Meeting (Override)</p> <p>2p - 3p SALC - Shelter Host Team</p>	<p>Jun - 11</p> <p>8:30a - 9:30a SALC - Tuesday Morning Men</p>	<p>Jun - 12</p>	<p>Jun - 13</p>	<p>Jun - 14</p> <p>ALL DAY SALC - Office closed on Fridays</p>	<p>Jun - 15</p>
<p>Jun - 16</p> <p>9a - 9:45a SALC - Coffee and Conversation</p> <p>10a - 11a SALC - Sunday Worship</p> <p>11:15a - 12:15p SALC - KnitWits (Knitting as Witnesses)</p>	<p>Jun - 17</p> <p>1p - 2p SALC - Saint Andrew's Staff Meeting</p> <p>2p - 3p SALC - Shelter Host Team</p> <p>7p - 8p SALC - Discipleship Committee Meeting</p>	<p>Jun - 18</p> <p>8:30a - 9:30a SALC - Tuesday Morning Men</p>	<p>Jun - 19</p> <p>ALL DAY SALC - Juneteenth National Independence Day/office closed</p>	<p>Jun - 20</p>	<p>Jun - 21</p> <p>ALL DAY SALC - Office closed on Fridays</p>	<p>Jun - 22</p> <p>1:30p - 3:30p SALC - Eastside Love & Justice Pride Service</p>
<p>Jun - 23</p> <p>9a - 9:45a SALC - Coffee and Conversation</p> <p>10a - 11a SALC - Sunday Worship</p>	<p>Jun - 24</p> <p>1p - 2p SALC - Saint Andrew's Staff Meeting</p> <p>2p - 3p SALC - Shelter Host Team</p> <p>7p - 8:30p SALC - Outreach and Servant Ministries</p>	<p>Jun - 25</p> <p>8:30a - 9:30a SALC - Tuesday Morning Men</p> <p>7p - 8p SALC - Building and Property Committee</p>	<p>Jun - 26</p> <p>7p - 8p SALC - Racial Justice Group/JEDI</p>	<p>Jun - 27</p>	<p>Jun - 28</p> <p>ALL DAY SALC - Office closed on Fridays</p>	<p>Jun - 29</p> <p>5p - 9p SALC - Friends of Porchlight Barbecue</p>
<p>Jun - 30</p> <p>9a - 9:45a SALC - Coffee and Conversation</p> <p>10a - 11a SALC - Sunday Worship</p>	<p>Jul - 1</p>	<p>Jul - 2</p>	<p>Jul - 3</p>	<p>Jul - 4</p>	<p>Jul - 5</p>	<p>Jul - 6</p>

Community News

Safe Parking Pilot Program

As part of its efforts to address homelessness, the city of Bellevue has launched a safe parking pilot program for residents living in their vehicles. The program is hosted at 515 116th Avenue NE, known as the Lincoln Center. The primary goal of the Safe Parking program is to provide stabilization to individuals as they seek permanent housing. The program provides a clean, safe, off-street parking area with nearby access to bathrooms, showers, and a kitchen, as well as case management and related services to support residents. Learn more at <https://bellevuewa.gov/resident-resources/homelessness-bellevue/safe-parking-pilot>. 



Congregation Council, Committees 2024

Committee	Council Liaison	Committee Chair
Executive	Carolynn Ferris, President Tom Getzinger, Vice President Johannes Grad, Secretary Bill Brueggemann, Treasurer Pastor Lara Forbes	
Building and Property	Kit Bowerman	John Nelson
Communications	Johannes Grad Rob Parks	
Discipleship Ministries	Aaron Davis Ann Ross-Clarke Abby Kasper, Youth Rep.	Dana Nasby
Finance	Bill Brueggemann, Treasurer Juliet Zhang	Brady Kasper
Health and Wholeness Ministry	Dave Vossler	Terri Anderson
Human Resources	Executive Committee	
Outreach and Servant Ministries	Dan Johnson	Dick Szabo
Stewardship	Becca Piel	Kit Bowerman
Worship and Music	Tom Getzinger	Sharon Gurtel

Saint Andrew's Ministry Team

Church Phone: **425-746-2529**

- The Reverend Lara Forbes**, Lead Pastor
pastor@SALC.church | phone extension 12
- The Reverend Timothy T. Weber**, Shared-Time Pastor
timwebertt@yahoo.com
- Dr. Will Simpson**, Director of Music Ministries
will@SALC.church | phone extension 17
- Doug Johnson**, Director of Youth and Family Ministries
doug@SALC.church | phone extension 13
- Sherry Grindeland**, Fellowship Coordinator
sherry@SALC.church | phone extension 16
- Susan Hegedus**, Communications Specialist
susan@SALC.church | phone extension 15
- Kurt Lutterman**, Facilities Manager
kurt@SALC.church | phone extension 11
- Mary Mills**, Office Administrator
mary@SALC.church | phone extension 10
- Quinlan Kasper**, Facilities Set-up
- Elaine Koga**, Choir Accompanist
- Ann Thorpe**, Sunday Church School Coordinator
- Joan Tweten**, Kitchen Team
- Vanessa Wilkie**, Handbell Choir Director

Samaritan Center of Puget Sound

Dr. Neal Teng, Counselor
206-957-4708

Serving in Our Community

We have many in our congregation family who serve on boards and commissions in our community. Some of those who serve are:

- Judy Gowdy**
Board Member, KidVantage
 - Carolynn Ferris**
Board President, Imagine Housing
Chair, City of Bellevue Planning Commission
 - Tom Getzinger**
Registrar, Performing Arts Festival of the Eastside
 - Judy Thiel**
President, Eastside Music Festival Foundation
 - Sherry Grindeland**
Board Member, Eastside Heritage Center
 - Matt Camrud**
Past President, The Rotary Club of Bellevue
 - Bill Brueggemann**
President, Bellevue Youth Choirs
 - Kurt Lutterman**
Member, City of Bellevue Environmental Services Commission
 - Mary Mills**
Tutor for K-12 students for the King County Library System
- Please let us know how you serve in our community!

The due date to submit items for the next issue of *the VOICE* is **June 17**.
Email submissions to Susan Hegedus, susan@SALC.church



2650 148th Avenue SE, Bellevue, WA 98007
 www.SALC.church
 425-746-2529

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Mission and Values

Mission:

Growing Together In Christ to Love and Serve All People

Values:

Worship: Responding to God's gift of Grace through Word and Sacrament, with praise, prayer and music. *Ephesians 5:18b-20, Romans 12:1*

Discipleship: Nurturing the growth of Christian faith in all ages as we learn from and follow Jesus. *Colossians 1:10, 2 Timothy 3:14-17*

Outreach: Serving and loving our neighbors with generosity and justice by sharing of our gifts from God. *Mark 10:43-45, Matthew 25:35-40*

Relationship: Living as a compassionate community sharing God's forgiveness and acceptance of all. *John 13:34-35, Colossians 3:12-14*

Sunday Worship Services | 10:00 am
 In-person and Livestream: salc.church/media

Church Office Hours
 Monday through Thursday | 9:00 am—3:00 pm

425-746-2529
<https://SALC.church> | info@SALC.church

Facebook: @salcbellevue AND @SALCFamilies
 Instagram: @salcbellevue AND @salc families
 YouTube: youtube.com/c/saintandrewslutheranchurch

Saint Andrew's is a **Reconciling in Christ** congregation. Living into our mission of growing together in Christ to love and serve all people, we welcome and include everyone, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, race, culture, neurodivergence, ability, age, addiction, relationship status, economic circumstances, or other distinction. See our full welcoming statement at salc.church/about-us.



We Support:

